

## CLAIMS

- 1 1. An apparatus comprising:  
2 a motor;  
3 an animal sensing mechanism that detects an animal and determines whether the  
4 animal is of a first or a second type; and  
5 a controller coupled to the motor and to the animal sensing mechanism, the  
6 controller causing the motor to run at a first speed when the animal sensing mechanism  
7 detects an animal of the first type, the controller causing the motor to run at a second  
8 speed when the animal sensing mechanism detects an animal of the second type.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the apparatus is coupled to an avian enclosure in  
2 a manner that causes the motor to rotate the avian enclosure when the motor runs.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first speed is from 3 to 6 revolutions per  
2 minute.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the second speed is from 70 to 100 revolutions  
2 per minute.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first type of animal is a bird and the second  
2 type of animal is a rodent.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a wireless interface coupled to the  
2 controller that communicates with a wireless remote control, wherein a user may select at  
3 least one predefined function on the wireless remote control, which causes a message to  
4 be sent from the wireless remote control to the wireless interface, wherein the controller  
5 performs at least one action in response to the message received from the wireless remote  
6 control.

- 1    7.     An apparatus comprising:  
2           an animal sensing mechanism that detects an animal;  
3           a wireless transmitter; and  
4           a controller coupled to the animal sensing mechanism and the wireless transmitter,  
5    the controller sending at least one message via the wireless transmitter.
- 1    8.     The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the controller sends at least one message via the  
2    wireless transmitter when the animal sensing mechanism detects an animal.
- 1    9.     The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a bird feeder coupled to the  
2    apparatus, wherein the controller sends at least one message via the wireless transmitter  
3    when an amount of feed in the bird feeder is below a predetermined threshold value.
- 1    10.    The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising an audio input mechanism coupled to  
2    the controller that monitors for at least one predetermined sound.
- 1    11.    The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the controller sends at least one message via  
2    the wireless transmitter when the audio input mechanism detects the at least one  
3    predetermined sound.
- 1    12.    The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a wireless receiver that receives the at  
2    least one message from the wireless transmitter and, in response thereto, provides  
3    notification to a user.
- 1    13.    The apparatus of claim 12 wherein a wireless remote control comprises the  
2    wireless receiver.

- 1 14. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the notification to the user comprises an  
2 audible sound.
- 1 15. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the notification to the user comprises a visible  
2 notification.
- 1 16. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the controller determines from the animal  
2 sensing mechanism whether the animal is of a first type or a second type, and wherein the  
3 controller sends a first message via the wireless interface if the animal is of the first type,  
4 and sends a second message via the wireless interface if the animal is of the second type.
- 1 17. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising a motor coupled to the controller,  
2 wherein the controller runs the motor at a first speed if the animal is of the first type.
- 1 18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the first speed is from 3 to 6 revolutions per  
2 minute.
- 1 19. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising a motor coupled to the controller,  
2 wherein the controller runs the motor at a second speed if the animal is of the second  
3 type.
- 1 20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the second speed is from 70 to 100 revolutions  
2 per minute.
- 1 21. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the wireless remote control comprises a  
2 transmitter that transmits a message in response to the user selecting a predefined  
3 function on the wireless remote control.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21 further comprising a wireless receiver coupled to the  
2 controller and a motor coupled to the controller, wherein the wireless receiver receives  
3 the message transmitted from the wireless remote control, and in response thereto, the  
4 controller performs at least one action.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the at least one action comprises running the  
2 motor at a first speed.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the at least one action comprises running the  
2 motor at a second speed.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the at least one action comprises stopping the  
2 motor.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the at least one action comprises changing the  
2 speed of the motor.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising an audio device coupled to the  
2 controller, wherein the at least one action comprises creating a sound on the audio device.

1 28. The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising a vibrator coupled to the controller,  
2 wherein the at least one action comprises activating the vibrator.

- 1 29. An apparatus for attaching to an avian enclosure comprising:  
2 a motor that is coupled to the avian enclosure when the apparatus is attached to  
3 the avian enclosure such that running the motor causes rotation of the avian enclosure;  
4 a wireless receiver; and  
5 a controller coupled to the motor and the wireless receiver, the controller  
6 receiving at least one message via the wireless receiver and performing at least one action  
7 corresponding to the received message.
- 1 30. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the at least one action comprises running the  
2 motor at a first speed.
- 1 31. The apparatus of claim 30 wherein the at least one action comprises running the  
2 motor at a second speed.
- 1 32. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the at least one action comprises stopping the  
2 motor.
- 1 33. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the at least one action comprises changing the  
2 speed of the motor.
- 1 34. The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising an audio device coupled to the  
2 controller, wherein the at least one action comprises creating a sound on the audio device.
- 1 35. The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising a vibrator coupled to the controller,  
2 wherein the at least one action comprises activating the vibrator.

- 1 36. A method for rotating an avian enclosure, the method comprising the steps of:  
2 detecting an animal;  
3 determining whether the animal is of a first or a second type;  
4 rotating the avian enclosure at a first speed if the animal is of the first type; and  
5 rotating the avian enclosure at a second speed if the animal is of the second type.
- 1 37. The method of claim 36 wherein the first speed is from 3 to 6 revolutions per  
2 minute.
- 1 38. The method of claim 36 wherein the second speed is from 70 to 100 revolutions  
2 per minute.

1 39. The method of claim 36 further comprising the step of transmitting at least one  
2 message from a wireless remote control.

1 40. The method of claim 39 further comprising the step of performing at least one  
2 action in response to the message received from the wireless remote control.

1 41. The method of claim 40 wherein the at least one action comprises running the  
2 motor at the first speed.

1 42. The method of claim 40 wherein the at least one action comprises running the  
2 motor at the second speed.

1 43. The method of claim 40 wherein the at least one action comprises stopping the  
2 motor.

1 44. The method of claim 40 wherein the at least one action comprises changing the  
2 speed of the motor.

- 1 45. A method for detecting an animal near an avian enclosure, the method comprising  
2 the steps of:
- 3 (A) detecting an animal; and  
4 (B) in response to detecting the animal, sending at least one message via wireless  
5 interface.
- 1 46. The method of claim 45 further comprising the step of receiving the at least one  
2 message, and in response thereto, providing notification to a user.
- 1 47. The method of claim 46 wherein the notification to the user comprises an audible  
2 sound.
- 1 48. The method of claim 46 wherein the notification to the user comprises a visible  
2 notification.
- 1 49. The method of claim 45 wherein step (A) comprises the step of monitoring for at  
2 least one predetermined sound.
- 1 50. The method of claim 45 further comprising the step of determining whether the  
2 animal is of a first type or a second type, and wherein step (B) comprises the step of  
3 sending a first message via the wireless interface if the animal is of the first type, and  
4 sending a second message via the wireless interface if the animal is of the second type.
- 1 51. The method of claim 50 further comprising the step of rotating the avian  
2 enclosure at a first speed if the animal is of the first type.

- 1 52. The method of claim 51 wherein the first speed is from 3 to 6 revolutions per  
2 minute.
- 1 53. The method of claim 50 further comprising the step of rotating the avian  
2 enclosure at a second speed if the animal is of the second type.
- 1 54. The method of claim 53 wherein the second speed is from 70 to 100 revolutions  
2 per minute.
- 1 55. The method of claim 45 further comprising the step of transmitting at least one  
2 message via a wireless remote control in response to a user selecting a predefined  
3 function on the wireless remote control.
- 1 56. The method of claim 55 further comprising the step of receiving the at least one  
2 message from the wireless remote control, and in response thereto, performing at least  
3 one action.
- 1 57. The method of claim 56 wherein the at least one action comprises rotating the  
2 avian enclosure at a first speed.
- 1 58. The method of claim 56 wherein the at least one action comprises rotating the  
2 avian enclosure at a second speed.
- 1 59. The method of claim 56 wherein the at least one action comprises stopping  
2 rotation of the avian enclosure.

- 1 60. The method of claim 56 wherein the at least one action comprises changing the  
2 speed of rotation of the avian enclosure.

1 61. A method for controlling an avian enclosure, the method comprising the steps of:  
2 (A) transmitting via wireless communication at least one message to an apparatus  
3 coupled to the avian enclosure; and  
4 (B) the apparatus receiving the at least message, and in response thereto,  
5 performing at least one action corresponding to the received message.

1 62. The method of claim 61 wherein the at least one action comprises running the  
2 motor at a first speed.

1 63. The method of claim 62 wherein the at least one action comprises running the  
2 motor at a second speed.

1 64. The method of claim 61 wherein the at least one action comprises stopping the  
2 motor.

1 65. The method of claim 61 wherein the at least one action comprises changing the  
2 speed of the motor.

1 66. The method of claim 61 wherein the at least one action comprises creating a  
2 sound on an audio device.

1 67. The method of claim 61 wherein the at least one action comprises activating a  
2 vibrator.

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